

## Embassy of the United States of America Port Louis, Mauritius

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## U.S. Embassy Port Louis Sponsors Mauritian Participants at Alumni Enrichment Conference

**Port Louis, February 28, 2011:** The U.S. Embassy Port Louis has selected Jonathan Ravat and Joelle Rabot to participate in the Alumni Enrichment Conference scheduled from March 1-3, 2011 in Nairobi, Kenya. This conference is fully sponsored by the U.S Department of State in conjunction with the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy, Port Louis. The conference will bring together East and Anglophone African alumni of U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs for training in Volunteerism and Community Service.

Jonathan Ravat is the Head of Department of Social Studies at the Cardinal Jean Margéot Institute. For the past 12 years has been engaged in and committed to various NGOs, interfaith organizations and other initiatives in the field of the fight against poverty and of extreme poverty alleviation, as well as in the field of interfaith dialogue, action, training and research.

Joelle Rabot is a Field Coordinator, She is responsible for the organization and coordination of all field activities and interaction with the outreach workers posted at the various Needle Exchange Program (NEP) sites. Both Jonathan and Joelle were nominated in their capacity as alumni and members of newly launched Port Louis – U.S. Alumni Association, PLUSAA. Both were participants to the President's Forum for Young African Leaders in August 2010.

There will be 35 participants at the Alumni Enrichment Conference, representing 15 African nations from East/Anglophone Africa. Conference participants are expected to gain the necessary skills and knowledge to support an existing alumni association and engage with other alumni on the theme of volunteerism and community service when they return.